

Application Serial No. 10/593,609
Preliminary Amendment

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Amendments To The Claims

The listing of claims presented below will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

- 1-16. (canceled)
17. (new) A package providing method for providing a package which is a set of components to a user terminal, comprising the steps of:
- generating metadata including a content reference identifier (CRID) for identifying the components and an instance metadata identifier (IMI) for identifying the content reference identifier; and
- transmitting the metadata to the user terminal.
18. (new) The package providing method as recited in claim 17, wherein the instance metadata identifier identifies locations of the components.
19. (new) The package providing method as recited in claim 17, wherein the instance metadata identifier identifies different bit expression instances of the components.
20. (new) The package providing method as recited in claim 19, wherein the bit expression is any one selected from a group consisting of a coding format, a bit rate and an aspect ratio.
21. (new) The package providing method as recited in claim 19, wherein the

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components are a plurality of components having identical contents and the content reference identifier is identical to the plurality of components.

22. (new) The package providing method as recited in claim 17, wherein instances of the components are located in different locations.

23. (new) The package providing method as recited in claim 22, wherein the instance metadata identifier is listed in the metadata.

24. (new) The package providing method as recited in claim 22, wherein the components are a plurality of components having identical contents and the content reference identifier is identical to the plurality of components.

25. (new) The package providing method as recited in claim 17, further comprising the step of fragmenting the generated metadata to a plurality of fragmented metadata for independently transmitting, processing and updating the fragmented metadata.

26. (new) The package providing method as recited in claim 25, further comprising the step of encapsulating the fragmented metadata.

27. (new) The package providing method as recited in claim 26, wherein the encapsulated metadata is transmitted by using a one-way broadcasting system or two-way system through an internet protocol (IP) network.

28. (new) A package providing apparatus for providing a package which is a

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set of components to a user terminal, comprising:

a generating unit for generating metadata including a content reference identifier (CRID) for identifying the components and an instance metadata identifier (IMI) for identifying the content reference identifier; and
a transmitting unit for transmitting the metadata to the user terminal.

29. (new) The package providing apparatus as recited in claim 28, wherein the instance metadata identifier identifies locations of the components.

30. (new) The package providing apparatus as recited in claim 28, wherein the instance metadata identifier identifies different bit expression instances of the components.

31. (new) The package providing apparatus as recited in claim 30, wherein the bit expression is any one selected from a group consisting of a coding format, a bit rate and an aspect ratio.

32. (new) The package providing apparatus as recited in claim 30, wherein the components are a plurality of components having identical contents and the content reference identifier is identical to the plurality of components.

33. (new) The package providing apparatus as recited in claim 28, wherein instances of the components are located in different locations.

34. (new) The package providing apparatus as recited in claim 33, wherein the instance metadata identifier is listed in the metadata.

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35. (new) The package providing apparatus as recited in claim 33, wherein the components are a plurality of components having identical contents and the content reference identifier is identical to the plurality of components.
36. (new) The package providing apparatus as recited in claim 28, further comprising a fragmenting unit for fragmenting the generated metadata to a plurality of fragmented metadata for independently transmitting, processing and updating the fragmented metadata.
37. (new) The package providing apparatus as recited in claim 36, further comprising an encapsulating unit for encapsulating the fragmented metadata.
38. (new) The package providing apparatus as recited in claim 37, wherein the encapsulated metadata is transmitted by using a one-way broadcasting system or two-way system through an internet protocol (IP) network.
39. (new) A package consuming method for consuming a package which is a set of components, comprising the steps of:
- receiving metadata including a content reference identifier (CRID) for identifying the components and an instance metadata identifier (IMI) for identifying the content reference identifier; and
 - acquiring the components using the content reference identifier and the instance metadata identifier of the metadata.
40. (new) The package consuming method as recited in claim 39, wherein the

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instance metadata identifier identifies locations of the components.

41. (new) The package consuming method as recited in claim 39, wherein the instance metadata identifier identifies different bit expression instances of the components.
42. (new) The package consuming method as recited in claim 41, wherein the bit expression is any one selected from a group consisting of a coding format, a bit rate and an aspect ratio.
43. (new) The package consuming method as recited in claim 41, wherein the components are a plurality of components having identical contents and the content reference identifier is identical to the plurality of components.
44. (new) The package consuming method as recited in claim 39, wherein instances of the components are located in different locations.
45. (new) The package consuming method as recited in claim 44, wherein the instance metadata identifier is listed in the metadata.
46. (new) The package consuming method as recited in claim 44, wherein the components are a plurality of components having identical contents and the content reference identifier is identical to the plurality of components.
47. (new) The package consuming method as recited in claim 39, wherein the metadata is received by using a one-way broadcasting system or two-way system

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through an internet protocol (IP) network.

48. (new) A user terminal for consuming a package which is a set of components, comprising:

a receiving unit for receiving metadata including a content reference identifier (CRID) for identifying the components and an instance metadata identifier (IMI) for identifying the content reference identifier; and

an acquiring unit for acquiring the components using the content reference identifier and the instance metadata identifier of the metadata.

49. (new) The user terminal as recited in claim 48, wherein the instance metadata identifier identifies locations of the components.

50. (new) The user terminal as recited in claim 48, wherein the instance metadata identifier identifies different bit expression instances of the components.

51. (new) The user terminal as recited in claim 50, wherein the bit expression is any one selected from a group consisting of a coding format, a bit rate and an aspect ratio.

52. (new) The user terminal as recited in claim 50, wherein the components are a plurality of components having identical contents and the content reference identifier is identical to the plurality of components.

53. (new) The user terminal as recited in claim 48, wherein instances of the

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components are located in different locations.

54. (new) The user terminal as recited in claim 53, wherein the instance metadata identifier is listed in the metadata.

55. (new) The user terminal as recited in claim 53, wherein the components are a plurality of components having identical contents and the content reference identifier is identical to the plurality of components.

56. (new) The user terminal as recited in claim 48, wherein the metadata is received by using a one-way broadcasting system or two-way system through an internet protocol (IP) network.

57. (new) A metadata for providing a package which is a set of components, comprising:

**a content reference identifier (CRID) for identifying the components; and
an instance metadata identifier (IMI) for identifying the content reference identifier.**

58. (new) The metadata as recited in claim 57, wherein the instance metadata identifier identifies locations of the components.

59. (new) The metadata as recited in claim 57, wherein the instance metadata identifier identifies different bit expression instances of the components.

60. (new) The metadata as recited in claim 59, wherein the bit expression is

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any one selected from a group consisting of a coding format, a bit rate and an aspect ratio.

61. (new) The metadata as recited in claim 59, wherein the components are a plurality of components having identical contents and the content reference identifier is identical to the plurality of components.

62. (new) The metadata as recited in claim 57, wherein instances of the components are located in different locations.

63. (new) The metadata as recited in claim 62, wherein the instance metadata identifier is listed in the metadata.

64. (new) The metadata as recited in claim 62, wherein the components are a plurality of components having identical contents and the content reference identifier is identical to the plurality of components.